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Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

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Organizational matters

Decisions adopted at the first regular session 2003 (20 - 23 January 2003)

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2003/1
Improvement of the working methods of the Executive Board

The Executive Board

1. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 on the functions of the Executive Board (paragraph 22) and Executive Board decisions 96/6 of 19 January 1996 and 96/45 of 13 September 1996, as reflected in DP/2003/CRP.6, on rationalization of documentation;

2. *Takes note* of the follow-up to the report on the rationalization of documentation and the streamlining of the working methods of the Executive Board (DP/2003/CRP.6) and the report on rationalization of documentation and streamlining of working methods of the Executive Board (DP/2001/CRP.17–DP/FPA/2001/CRP.2);

3. *Encourages* a closer relationship between the deliberations of the Executive Board and the work in the field, keeping in mind the need to enhance country-driven programming;

4. *Decides* to include this item in the agenda of the annual session of the Executive Board in June 2003;

5. *Invites* all Member States, through the Bureau, to present contributions, before 15 May 2003, on the rationale for the improvement of the working methods of the Executive Board and specific proposals in this regard.

23 January 2003

2003/2
Assistance to Myanmar

The Executive Board

1. *Reaffirms* Governing Council decision 93/21 and Executive Board decisions 98/14 and 2001/15;

2. *Recognizes* the critical humanitarian and basic human development needs of all the people of Myanmar;

3. *Takes note* of the note of the Administrator on assistance to Myanmar (DP/2003/3) and the report submitted by the independent assessment mission to Myanmar, in particular the strategic issues and challenges raised therein;

4. *Encourages* UNDP, within its mandate, to enhance the impact of Human Development Initiative (HDI) phase IV, taking into account the report submitted by the independent assessment mission.

23 January 2003

2003/3
Financial situation of the United Nations Office for Project Services, including changes in the level of the operational reserve

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) on the implementation of the UNOPS revised budget 2002 (DP/2003/CRP.3) and its supplementary information;

2. *Notes* that the preliminary year-end figures are close to year-end projections as set out in DP/2003/CRP.3 and *notes further with appreciation* the efforts made by UNOPS staff in this regard;

3. *Expresses* its concern over the continued reduction in the level of the operational reserve;

4. *Requests* that the Executive Director a.i. of UNOPS submit a report by 1 April 2003 to the Executive Board, through the Management Coordination Committee, on updated actual end-of-year figures for 2002 and projected income and expenditure figures, as well as the level of the operational reserve, for 2003.

23 January 2003

2003/4
Independent review of the United Nations Office for Project Services

The Executive Board

1. *Recalls* its decision 2002/22 in which it decided to carry out an independent review of the business model and related issues of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS);

2. *Regrets* that the joint note of the Management Coordination Committee (MCC) and the Executive Director of UNOPS on the independent review pertaining to the business model and related issues of UNOPS (DP/2003/CRP.4), which provides a revised budget proposal for the independent review, was submitted late;

3. *Approves* the budget for the independent review up to the amount of $255 000 (DP/2003/CRP.4);

4. *Requests* that UNDP pre-finance the study and arrange appropriate modalities for reimbursement from interested Member countries;

5. *Calls on* all countries in a position to do so to contribute expeditiously towards the cost of the independent review and not later than 21 February 2003;

6. *Decides* that the independent review should be undertaken by a consultancy firm selected through an open and transparent tender and *requests* that the MCC initiate the process without delay, including the arrangement of appropriate

contractual modalities for the execution of the study, bearing in mind paragraph 16 of the terms of reference set out in document DP/2003/CRP.4, as amended below;

7. *Decides* that paragraph 16 of the terms of reference be amended as follows:

> The duration of the review is estimated at 90 calendar days. The core team will require expertise in organizational restructuring in international public administration, service delivery in public- and private-sector management, corporate governance and accounting. The team should be able to draw on specialized expertise as required. One member of the team should be familiar with current and potential markets within the United Nations system, in particular development cooperation, peacekeeping and humanitarian activities;

8. *Requests* that a preliminary report, for information purposes, on progress and recommendations of the review mission be presented to the Executive Board at its annual session in June 2003 and *requests further* receipt of the final report of the review mission, including the comments by the Executive Director of UNOPS, through the MCC, prior to the second regular session 2003 of the Executive Board.

23 January 2003

2003/5
Implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the UNDP report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the biennium 2000-2001 (DP/2003/6) and the update (DP/2003/CRP.7), the UNFPA follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2000-2001: status of implementation of recommendations (DP/FPA/2003/1) and the UNOPS follow-up to the report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the biennium 2000-2001 (DP/2003/7 and Corr. 1);

2. *Notes* that the opinion of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) was unqualified and *welcomes* the significant improvements that have been made;

3. *Notes with concern* that the Board of Auditors has issued modified reports for UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS;

4. *Encourages* UNDP and UNFPA to continue their follow-up action with respect to the audits of nationally executed expenditures;

5. *Welcomes* the imminent completion of the service-level agreements for services provided by UNDP to UNFPA and UNOPS;

6. *Further welcomes* the ongoing consultations between UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to develop a fraud-prevention strategy by the end of 2003;

7. *Encourages* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to take further steps to simplify, harmonize and standardize their financial reporting.

23 January 2003

2003/6
Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2003

The Executive Board

Recalls that during the first regular session 2003, it:

Item 1
Organizational matters

Elected the following members of the Bureau for 2003:

President:	H.E. Mr. Roble Olhaye (Djibouti)
Vice-President:	H.E. Mr. Ahmed Al-Haddad (Yemen)
Vice-President:	Mr. Denys Toscano (Ecuador)
Vice-President:	Mr. Juraj Koudelka (Czech Republic)
Vice-President:	Ms. Kjersti Rodsmoen (Norway)

Approved the agenda and work plan for its first regular session 2003 (DP/2003/L.1 and Corr.1);

Approved the report of the second regular session 2002 (DP/2003/1);

Approved its annual work plan 2003 (DP/2003/CRP.1);

Adopted decision 2003/1 of 23 January 2003 on improvement of the working methods of the Executive Board;

Agreed to the following schedule of future sessions of the Executive Board in 2003:

Annual session 2003: 6 June and 9-20 June 2003 (New York)

Second regular session 2003: 8-12 September 2003.

UNDP segment

Item 2
UNDP Business Plans, 2000-2003

Took note of the oral presentation on the UNDP Business Plans, 2000-2003 and the conference room paper providing additional information (DP/2003/CRP.8).

Item 3
Country programmes and related matters

Approved the country programmes for Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria and the Seychelles;

Approved the country programmes for India, Malaysia, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Timor-Leste and the multi-country programmes for Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau and the Pacific Island countries;

Approved the country programmes for Bolivia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela;

Approved the country programmes for Bahrain, Jordan and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;

Approved the extensions of country cooperation frameworks for the Central African Republic and Thailand (DP/2003/8);

Took note of the corrigendum to the second country cooperation framework for Panama (DP/CCF/PAN/2/Corr.1);

Adopted decision 2003/2 of 23 January 2003 on assistance to Myanmar;

Took note of the report on assistance to Djibouti (DP/2003/4) and the country programme outline for Djibouti (DP/CPO/DJI/1).

Item 4
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Took note of the report on the special reserve for separations relating to UNOPS and the liabilities affecting UNDP (DP/2003/CRP.2).

Item 5
United Nations Office for Project Services

Adopted decision 2003/3 of 23 January 2003 on the financial situation of the United Nations Office for Project Services, including changes in the level of the operational reserve;

Adopted decision 2003/4 of 23 January 2003 on the independent review of the United Nations Office for Project Services.

Item 6
Field visits

Took note of the report on field visits (DP/2002/CRP.5);

Approved the terms of reference and agreed on the proposed dates and composition of field visits.

UNDP/UNFPA segment

Item 7
Recommendations of the Board of Auditors 2000-2001

Adopted decision 2003/5 of 23 January 2003 on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the biennium 2000-2001 for the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services;

Took note of the UNDP update on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the biennium 2000-2001 (DP/2003/CRP.7).

Item 8
Reports to the Economic and Social Council

Took note of the reports of the UNDP Administrator (DP/2003/5) and the UNFPA Executive Director (DP/FPA/2003/2) to the Economic and Social Council and agreed to transmit them to the Council with comments made thereon.

UNFPA segment

Item 9
Country programmes and related matters

Approved the following country programmes:

Africa: Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania and Nigeria;

Arab States: Djibouti and Jordan;

Asia and the Pacific: Bangladesh, China, India, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, the South Pacific region and Timor-Leste;

Latin America and the Caribbean: Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador and Venezuela.

Item 10
Other matters

I. Briefing

Held a briefing on the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The Board decided that delegations needed more time to review the Beijing Declaration of the Second GEF Assembly with their respective capitals. It was proposed that this item be taken up at the annual session in June 2003. A Note by the Administrator will be prepared and made available for advance distribution by or before mid-March 2003.

II. Informal consultations

Held informal consultations on strategic evaluations of corporate issues that are of high priority to the organization.

23 January 2003

Tentative work plan
Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA
Annual session 2003
(6 June and 9-20 June 2003, New York)

Day/date	Time	Item	Subject
Friday, 6 June	10 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	*Joint session of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP*	
Monday, 9 June	11 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	*Joint session of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP*	
Tuesday, 10 June	10 a.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS - Adoption of the agenda and work plan for the session - Adoption of the report of the first regular session 2003 **UNDP segment**
		2	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR - Annual report of the Administrator - Report on the multi-year funding framework - Statistical annexe - Report of the Joint Inspection Unit
	3:00 p.m.	SPECIAL EVENT (to be determined)	
Wednesday, 11 June	10:00 a.m.	2	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR (continued)
		3	UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND - Results-oriented annual report
	3:00 p.m.	4	TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES - New cooperation framework
		7	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT - Human Development Report – in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/264
Thursday, 12 June	10:00 a.m.	5	FUNDING COMMITMENTS TO UNDP - Status of regular funding commitments to UNDP
		6	UNDP: COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS - Country programme outlines
	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Informal consultations on the thematic trust funds	
	3:00 p.m.	6	UNDP: COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS (continued)
		8	UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR PROJECT SERVICES - Annual report of the Executive Director - Progress information report on the independent review

Day/date	Time	Item	Subject
Friday, 13 June	10:00 a.m.	10	**UNDP/UNFPA joint segment** INTERNAL AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT - UNDP: Report on internal audit and oversight - UNFPA: Report on internal audit and oversight
		11	FIELD VISITS - Report on field visits
	3:00 p.m.	12	PROGRAMMING PROCESS - Report of UNDP/UNFPA on common tools to monitor progress and evaluate outcomes/results of respective country programmes
		9	IMPROVEMENT OF THE WORKING METHODS OF THE BOARD - Report on improvement of the working methods of the Board
Monday, 16 June	10:00 a.m.		**UNFPA segment**
		13	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 2002 - Annual report of the Executive Director 2002 - Statistical overview - Multi-year funding framework - Sector-wide approaches - Humanitarian assistance - Reproductive health commodity security
	3:00 p.m.	13	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 2002 (continued)
Tuesday, 17 June	10:00 a.m.	14	DELEGATION OF UNFPA PERSONNEL AUTHORITY - Report on delegation of formal authority to the Executive Director on UNFPA personnel matters
	3:00 p.m.	15	FUNDING COMMITMENTS TO UNFPA - Report on funding commitments to UNFPA
Wednesday, 18 June	10:00 a.m.	16	UNFPA: COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS - Country programme outlines
	3:00 p.m.	16	UNFPA: COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS (continued)
Thursday, 19 June	10:00 a.m.	17	UNFPA: TECHNICAL ADVISORY PROGRAMME - Report on a monitoring and evaluation framework of the Technical Advisory Programme
	3:00 p.m.	18	OTHER MATTERS - World Solidarity Fund
		1	Pending decisions ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS